

**Production of Coal by ECL**

5482. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and actual coal produced by the Eastern Coal Fields Limited during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there has been shortfall in production against the target;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) could not achieve its production targets during last 3 years. The details of coal production against the target from the mines of ECL during the last 3 years are as under:—

	(million tonnes)		
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Target	25.45	29.75	31.50
Actual	24.85	27.81	29.65 (prov.)

(c) The main reasons for shortfall in production from the targets are as under:—

(i) Power failure.

(ii) Drowning of districts due to heavy rainfall.

(iii) Geological disturbances.

(iv) Delay in commissioning of dragline at Sonapur Bazari opencast project due to design defect.

(v) Delay in commissioning of longwall equipment at Jhanjra underground project due to non availability of spares in time from C.I.S. countries.

(d) Following steps have been taken by Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) for enhancing coal production from its mines.

1. Regular interaction with West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB), Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for improvement in power supply

2. Surface water management alongwith adequate monsoon preparation including augmentation of pumping in order to avoid drowning of districts.

3. Intense monitoring for procurement of spares and equipment in time.

4. Optimisation of production as well as optimisation of capacity utilisation of the existing equipment.

5. Optimisation of production from Side Discharge

Loaders/Load Haul Dumpers and power support longwall faces.

6. Measures for implementation of projects have been intensified so as to avoid slippage in projects.

[*Translation*]

**Commission to check Corruption Cases**

5483. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH:

KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a high level Commission to check corruption in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) There is no proposal under consideration to constitute a high level Commission to check corruption in the country. However, with the object of providing for the establishment of an institution of Lokpal to enquire into the allegations of corruption against public functionaries and for matters connected therewith, the Lokpal Bill, 1996 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 13.9.96 and the Bill is under consideration of Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of part (a) above.

[*English*]

**Kerala Scheduled Tribes Amendment Bill, 1996**

5484. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala High Court has directed the Union Government to complete all preliminary steps before the submission of the Kerala Scheduled Tribes (Restriction on Transfer of Lands and Restriction of Alienated Lands) Amendment Bill, 1996 for the consideration of the President within two months from the date of issuing the direction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in its order dated 24.3.1997 has directed the Union of India to complete all preliminary steps required to be taken before submission

of the Bill for the consideration of the President and submit the same to the President as early as possible, at any rate within a period of two months from 24.3.1997.

(c) The Union Government has taken expeditious action to complete all preliminary steps in this regard.

#### Free Trade Zone

5485. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare free trade zone in Kodarma, Hazaribagh and Giridih districts of Bihar to boost export from these districts;

(b) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey of these districts for developing trade zones;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) The terms "Free Trade Zones" (FTZs) and "Export Processing Zones" (EPZs) in the Indian context are synonymous. There is no proposal at present for the Central Government to set up any new Zones. However, EPZs can now be established by the State Governments or in the joint/private sectors.

[Translation]

#### Vacant SC/ST Posts

5486. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes filled during the last one year and those still lying vacant in his Ministry/Departments, post-wise; and

(b) the phased programme prepared by the Government to fill up the posts still lying vacant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) A statement containing the requisite information is attached.

(b) Necessary action to fill up all the reserved vacancies has already been initiated. As regards filling up the reserved vacancies in the grade of Member, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, a Selection Board has already been constituted and interviews are likely to be held shortly for filling up these vacancies. In other cases, proposals have been sent to the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission. The vacancies will be filled up immediately on receipt of the recommendations/nominations from them.

#### Statement

Designation		No. of reserved posts filled during 1996		No. of reserved posts lying vacant	
		SC	ST	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5	6

#### Group 'A'

1.	Members, ITAT				
	(Judicial)	—	—	2	1
	(Accountant)	2	—	1	1
2.	Deputy Legal Advisor	—	—	1	—
3.	Dy. Legislative Counsel	1	—	1	—
4.	Asstt. Legal Advisor	—	—	1	—
5.	Asstt. Legislative Counsel	—	—	1	2
6.	Astt. Editor	1	—	1	—